

company profitable in a time when clothing manufacturing in Philadelphia has been in decline. But apart from being a successful businessman, David Pincus has distinguished himself as an exceptional humanitarian. Several times a year, Pincus, as a member of the CARE board of overseers and a board member of the International Red Cross, puts his business in capable hands and flies off to some of the world's most troubled areas to provide aid to children who are the innocent victims of war, famine, and staggering poverty. Since the 1980's he has visited children in Bangladesh, Bosnia, Croatia, Haiti, Rwanda, Romania, Ethiopia, and the Sudan, among others. On his birthdays, he has made a tradition of taking gifts to less fortunate children.

David Pincus commits these acts of generosity and caring not out of a desire for recognition, but because of a strong sense of moral responsibility and because it makes him feel good knowing that he can help ease the suffering of those less fortunate than himself.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of his contributions to the city of Philadelphia and his commitment to making the world a better place for children, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Mr. David N. Pincus.

IN HONOR OF RABBI MILTON H. POLIN

**HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 1997*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Milton H. Polin, spiritual leader of Brooklyn's prestigious Kingsway Jewish Center since 1974 and past president of the Rabbinical Council of America is one of the foremost rabbinic personalities in the United States.

At his ordination 43 years ago, his teachers characterized him as "a gifted young scholar who will inspire a profound reverence for Torah Judaism." More recently he was paid tribute by the U.S. House of Representatives for being "a man highly esteemed and respected by Jews and Christians whose lives have been touched by numerous good works and kind deeds of this outstanding spiritual and civic leader."

His rabbinic leadership has transformed his congregation into a pulsating center of Torah learning and communal activity for hundreds of young, highly educated, religiously observant families. He personally teaches a variety of classes for men and women of all ages and backgrounds at his synagogue. In addition, the Greater New York UJA-Federation recently recognized his congregation's outstanding outreach program for new American families and awarded it a significant Continuity Commission grant.

During his presidency of the Rabbinical Council of America, the largest and most influential Orthodox rabbinical body in the world, he participated actively in the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and continues to maintain regular contact with the chief rabbis and government leaders in Israel.

Active in the larger community in many capacities, Rabbi Polin was recently invited to join the Orthodox Caucus, the foremost Orthodox think tank in North America, and the board of directors of the Beth Din of America.

A lifelong religious Zionist, Rabbi Polin is a national vice president of the Religious Zionists of America after previously serving as president of that organization's Greater New York Council. He is a member of the Rabbinic Advisory Council of the Jewish National Fund.

In the several communities he has served, Rabbi Polin has at various times built a Mikvah, an Eruv, and two synagogues. His interest in Kashruth and responsibility for communal supervision long predated his chairmanship of the Rabbinic Kashruth Commission, the halakhic authority for the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America Kashruth Division. He currently serves as chairman of the Kashruth Committee of the Vaad Harabbanim of Flatbush.

Rabbi Polin is a trustee of the international Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture. He was recently reelected vice president of the Coordinating Council on Bikur Cholim of Greater New York. Previously he has served as chaplain of the Kings County Council of the Jewish War Veterans and as a member of both the rabbinic advisory and the executive councils of the Commission on Synagogue Relations, which are agencies of the UJA-Federation of the Jewish Philanthropies of New York. He chaired the Committee on the Public Information and Education of the Task Force on Missionary Activities of the Jewish Community Relations of New York.

In his local community, Rabbi Polin has served two terms as president of the 90-member Vaad Harabbanim of Flatbush and chaired its Jubilee Anniversary celebration. He participated actively on the Board of Education of the Yeshivah of Flatbush for many years.

With his wife Shainees, he was sent to the former Soviet Union more than two decades ago when Jews were not allowed to leave. They have shared their experiences, insights, and concerns for Soviet Jews in several forums. It was this experience that sensitized them to the special needs of today's new American families.

An eloquent speaker and acclaimed scholar, Rabbi Polin's sermons have appeared annually in the Rabbinical Council of America Sermon Anthology. Yeshiva University President Dr. Norman Lamm characterized his sermons as enlightening and creative. His scholarly articles have been published in such journals as "Judaism," "Tradition," and "The Hebrew Theological College Journal." Several of his halakhic studies on Maimonides' Code has been published in Hadarom.

Born in Chicago, IL, Rabbi Polin studied at the Hebrew Theological College—Beth Midrash L'Torah—in his native city from which he received his semikhah and bachelor of Hebrew literature degree cum laude. At his ordination he was awarded a prize for his Hebrew essay "Rabbi Joseph Albo and the Debate at Tortosa, 1413-14." He also holds a master of arts degree in education from the University of Chicago.

Rabbi Polin is listed in "Who's Who in World Jewry," "Who's Who in Israel," and "Jewish Personalities All Over the World," and "Who's Who in Religion."

He is married to the former Shainees Sachs. They have 5 children, all married, and 18 grandchildren. Three of their children live in Israel, and 13 of their grandchildren are Sabras.

He never fails to leave me inspired by his words and honored by his presence. After 43 years of outstanding congregational and com-

munal leadership throughout the country, he retires from his dedicated and faithful service. Rabbi Polin leaves behind a legacy that has touched us all in so many ways and at so many levels. Thank you, Rabbi, for being such an inspiration.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 1997*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 480, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I ask that this statement be inserted in the appropriate section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE MEMBERS FIRST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 1997*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the staff and management of the Members First Federal Credit Union on the opening of their new operations center in Mechanicsburg, PA. This new center is located in Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional district which I represent.

Founded in 1950 by employees of the U.S. Naval Supply Depot in Mechanicsburg, Members First provided basic account services to a handful of members. Since then, the credit union has expanded its capabilities to keep pace with the ever changing needs of its members. Throughout its history, Members First has pooled resources to benefit its members—loan by loan, deposit by deposit, sharing a special relationship with each and ever member.

Today, Members First is a full service financial cooperative meeting the needs of more than 78,000 members and offering an array of products and services. The credit union takes great pride in staff, members, and all they have achieved together as they mark another milestone in their history with the mission of "improving economic well being and quality of life of all members."

The new center will offer the latest in financial services technology and house the administrative and support functions of the credit union. The new operations center is not just a building, but a symbol of the pride in the organization and growth of their membership. It is a foundation for the future as Members First strives to meet members' needs in the years ahead by enhancing quality and service to its members.

Again Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the efforts of the staff and management of the Members First Federal Credit Union on this momentous occasion.